

Union Calendar No. 149

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2655

[Report No. 108–260, Part I]

To amend and extend the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program
Act of 1998.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2003

Mr. WALSH (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mrs. McCARTHY of New York, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. QUINN, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FROST, and Mr. DUNCAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

Additional sponsors: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. McHUGH, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

Referral to the Committee on International Relations extended for a period
ending not later than September 4, 2003

SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

Committee on International Relations discharged; committed to the Committee
of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend and extend the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act of 1998.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION OF IRISH PEACE
PROCESS CULTURAL AND TRAINING PROGRAM ACT OF 1998.**

(a) AMENDMENT OF PROGRAM.—

(1) Section 2(a)(2)(A) of the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act of 1998 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended by adding at the end “Not more than 20 percent of participants in the program may have a degree from an institution of higher education.”.

(2) Section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(Q)(ii)(I)) is amended—

(A) by striking “35 years of age or younger having a residence” and inserting “21 to 35 years of age, unemployed for not less than 6 months, having resided for not less than 6 months”; and

(B) by striking “36 months” and inserting “24 months”.

1 (3) Section 212(e) of the Immigration and Na-
2 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(e)) is amended by in-
3 serting after subsection (p) the following:

4 “(q)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no per-
5 son admitted under section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii)(I) or acquir-
6 ing such status after admission shall be eligible to apply
7 for an immigrant visa, or for permanent residence, or for
8 a nonimmigrant visa under this Act until it is established
9 that such person has resided and been physically present
10 in the country of nationality or last residence for an aggre-
11 gate of at least one year following departure from the
12 United States.

13 “(2) The Secretary of Homeland Security may waive
14 the requirement of such one-year foreign residence abroad
15 if the Secretary determines that—

16 “(A) departure from the United States would
17 impose exceptional hardship upon the alien’s spouse
18 or child (if such spouse or child is a citizen of the
19 United States or a lawfully resident alien);

20 “(B) that the alien cannot return to the coun-
21 try of the alien’s nationality or last residence be-
22 cause the alien would be subject to persecution on
23 account of race, religion, or political opinion; or

1 “(C) the admission of the alien is in the public
2 interest or the national interest of the United
3 States.”.

4 (b) EXTENSION OF PROGRAM.—Section 2 of the Irish
5 Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act of
6 1998 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (d)(1) by striking “2006,”
8 and inserting “2008,”;

9 (2) in subsection (d)(2) by striking “2005,”
10 and inserting “2011,”; and

11 (3) in subsection (a)(3) by striking “the third
12 program year and for the 3 subsequent years,” and
13 inserting “each program year”.

14 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES.—The
15 Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act
16 of 1998 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note; Public Law 105–319) is
17 amended—

18 (1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
19 it appears and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Se-
20 curity”; and

21 (2) by striking “Immigration and Naturaliza-
22 tion Service” each place it appears and inserting
23 “Department of Homeland Security”.

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